

In Finland the duty is nearly 13 cents a pound to December 10 and then after that is 15 cents ad valorem. In Sweden the duty is 2.2 cents a pound to March 1 and in Mexico I have already given you some figures, but in general the duty on apples and pears even in countries that don't produce apples and pears is high and there isn't a reason in the world why our negotiators or our negotiating teams should not seek more vigorously reasonable and equitable access into those countries.

We would like to point out that the only tariff concessions obtained for U.S. apples and pears in the Kennedy round was from Canada and in this case each country, the United States and Canada, agreed to eliminate a very minor duty on apples.

Further, the Kennedy round failed to produce any change in the nontariff barriers that exist in many countries against our apples and pears and, therefore, the net result remains the same; namely, that we are denied the rights and privileges that we are entitled to under the GATT.

I think Congressman Rivers put it most aptly, that we have enough laws on the books and I would just like to say in closing that we would like to make a point of enunciation and execution.

The U.S. Government has long enunciated that we would insist other countries live up to their commitments and provide reciprocal trade opportunities for the United States. We think that now is the time for execution and a little less enunciation.

(Mr. Burrows' prepared statement follows:)

STATEMENT OF FRED W. BURROWS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL APPLE ASSOCIATION, INC.

The International Apple Association, Inc. is a non-profit membership organization serving the entire fruit industry with emphasis on apples and winter pears. Our membership covers all segments of the apple and winter pear industry, including producers, packers, shippers, processors, wholesale and retail distributors, exporters, importers, and allied industries. We have members in thirty-four countries outside the United States. Our membership produces and/or handles in excess of seventy-five percent of the commercial apple and winter pear crops and is directly concerned with practically all of the apple exports and ninety percent of the winter pear exports.

The U.S. National Fruit Export Council presented a general statement of position and policy before the House Ways and Means Committee on June 11, 1968. As a charter member of the USNFEC, we strongly support that statement. Further, we would emphasize that, since its inception in 1895, the International Apple Association, Inc. has advocated a policy of "free trade".

Our statement here today will cover some of the specific tariff and trade problems facing the apple and pear industry and the background that created and amplified these problems.

THE VALUE AND IMPORTANCE OF APPLES AND PEARS

Apples and pears are important commodities in many countries around the world. In the U.S. thousands upon thousands of men and women are employed in the growing, packing, processing, transporting and selling of these crops. Also, many allied industry firms and their employees are dependent, in part or whole, on these crops for their existence. In recent years the combined farm value of an average apple and pear crop is estimated at over \$300,000,000, with a retail value after packing, storing, processing, transporting, etc. of over one billion dollars.

THE COMPETITIVE SITUATION

The appended tables, and the tables below, show that the world apple and pear production has increased substantially during the past 35 years, notably in Europe, Asia and South America. The increase has been especially sharp in those three areas since the close of World War II.